

News

U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics
PO Box 193766
San Francisco, CA 94119-3766



CONTACT:

Stanley P. Stephenson (415) 975-4373
Nancy A. Treadwell (415) 975-4403
Public Information Line (415) 975-4350
Internet address: <http://stats.bls.gov/ro9news.htm>
Fax on demand (415) 975-4567, Document 9545

BLS 01-16
FOR RELEASE:
Tuesday, March 6, 2001

HIGHLIGHTS OF RICHLAND-KENNEWICK-PASCO, WA NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY AUGUST 2000

Workers in the Richland-Kennewick-Pasco, Washington, metropolitan area averaged \$20.21 per hour during August 2000, according to a new survey released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Regional Commissioner Stanley P. Stephenson reported that white-collar workers averaged \$22.48 per hour and accounted for 65 percent of the workers in the area. Blue-collar employees averaged \$17.68 per hour and represented 23 percent of the workforce, while the remaining 12 percent worked in service occupations and earned \$13.46 per hour. (See table 1.)

The National Compensation Survey (NCS) presents straight-time earnings for occupations in establishments employing 50 or more workers in private industry and State and local governments. The survey excludes agricultural establishments, private households, the self-employed, and the Federal Government. This NCS covered 63 firms representing 33,000 workers in the Richland-Kennewick-Pasco metropolitan area, which includes Benton and Franklin Counties in Washington. Sixty-nine percent of those represented worked in private industry.

In the Richland-Kennewick-Pasco metropolitan area, average hourly wages were published for nearly 20 detailed occupations. (See table 1.) Among white-collar workers, registered nurses averaged \$24.17 per hour; accountants and auditors, \$21.56; secretaries, \$13.40; and cashiers, \$7.83. Blue-collar occupations included electricians earning \$26.09 per hour and industrial machinery repairers at \$18.27. In the service occupations, public service police and detectives averaged \$22.42 per hour and janitors and cleaners averaged \$13.19.

The NCS also provides broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics. (See tables 2 and 3.) For example, full-time employees in the Richland-Kennewick-Pasco metropolitan area averaged \$21.21 per hour and part-time workers earned \$9.28. Union workers in blue-collar jobs averaged \$19.99 per hour; while their non-union counterparts made \$13.38. Private industry workers at establishments with 50-99 workers averaged \$14.03 per hour and those in establishments employing 500 or more employees earned \$24.39.

National Compensation Survey, Richland-Kennewick-Pasco, WA, August 2000 (continued)

The NCS is a part of a statistical program that will eventually integrate three separate surveys of wages and benefits into one comprehensive compensation program increasing the amount of data available. Data provided by the NCS may be used by businesses for establishing pay plans, making decisions concerning plant relocation, and in collective bargaining negotiations. Individuals may use such data to help choose potential careers. Average rates of pay are also available for levels of work within an occupation based on knowledge, skill, independent judgement, supervision received and other factors required on the job.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in the National Compensation Survey, Richland-Kennewick-Pasco, WA, August 2000 (Bulletin number 3105-35). While supplies last, single copies of the bulletin are available from the San Francisco Information Office by calling 415-975-4350. In addition, data contained in the bulletin are available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at <http://stats/bls.gov/comhome.htm>. Select survey tables can also be obtained from the Bureau's fax-on-demand service in San Francisco by dialing 415-975-4567 and requesting document 9545.

For personal assistance or further information on the National Compensation Survey, as other Bureau programs, contact the San Francisco Economic Analysis & Information Office at 415-975-4350 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. PST.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings(1), all workers:(2) Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Richland-Kennewick-Pasco, WA, August 2000

Occupation(3)	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
All.....	\$20.21	3.1	\$19.25	4.2	\$22.93	3.8
All excluding sales.....	20.87	3.3	20.04	4.5	23.03	3.8
White collar.....	22.48	3.6	21.69	4.8	24.59	4.5
White collar excluding sales.....	23.80	3.7	23.40	4.9	24.77	4.4
Professional specialty and technical.....	28.50	2.6	28.23	3.9	29.04	2.1
Professional specialty.....	30.39	2.5	30.72	3.7	29.87	1.9
Engineers, architects, and surveyors.....	34.25	3.9	34.83	4.2	-	-
Mathematical and computer scientists.....	26.23	6.4	-	-	-	-
Natural scientists.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Health related.....	24.15	2.7	23.66	2.3	-	-
Registered nurses.....	24.17	3.2	-	-	-	-
Teachers, college and university.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Teachers, except college and university.....	30.12	2.0	-	-	30.33	1.9
Secondary school teachers.....	31.13	2.1	-	-	31.13	2.1
Librarians, archivists, and curators.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Social scientists and urban planners.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Social, recreation, and religious workers.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lawyers and judges.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Technical.....	22.64	3.5	22.48	4.1	23.38	5.8
Science technicians, n.e.c.....	23.39	2.6	23.39	2.6	-	-
Executive, administrative, and managerial.....	28.36	7.3	28.41	8.4	28.18	14.8
Executives, administrators, and managers.....	36.48	6.1	36.95	7.1	35.11	13.2
Managers and administrators, n.e.c.....	36.54	7.6	37.09	8.0	-	-
Management related.....	21.72	6.0	21.89	7.2	21.09	8.7
Accountants and auditors.....	21.56	3.9	-	-	-	-
Management related, n.e.c.....	17.74	4.5	-	-	-	-
Sales.....	10.40	10.8	10.31	11.4	-	-
Cashiers.....	7.83	8.4	7.39	8.1	-	-
Administrative support, including clerical.....	12.59	2.9	12.17	3.4	13.69	4.6
Secretaries.....	13.40	5.3	12.91	5.9	-	-
Receptionists.....	9.16	6.6	8.94	6.7	-	-
Information clerks, n.e.c.....	11.77	6.1	11.55	5.7	-	-
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks.....	13.74	10.0	12.43	13.2	-	-
General office clerks.....	14.43	4.2	14.43	4.5	-	-

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings(1), all workers:(2) Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Richland-Kennewick-Pasco, WA, August 2000 (Continued)

Occupation(3)	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
Blue collar.....	17.68	5.9	17.19	7.6	19.42	5.7
Precision production, craft, and repair.....	23.06	3.5	23.50	4.1	22.03	5.8
Industrial machinery repairers.....	18.27	11.9	18.27	11.9	-	-
Electricians.....	26.09	1.0	-	-	-	-
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors.....	13.40	8.3	13.40	8.3	-	-
Transportation and material moving.....	16.38	8.1	16.70	10.5	15.37	5.4
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers.....	10.52	8.3	9.77	7.5	-	-
Service.....	13.46	9.5	10.77	11.8	20.08	8.1
Protective service.....	21.18	4.7	-	-	21.73	5.1
Firefighting.....	19.26	4.7	-	-	19.26	4.7
Police and detectives, public service.....	22.42	1.7	-	-	22.42	1.7
Food service.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Waiters, waitresses, and bartenders.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other food service.....	8.23	4.2	7.95	1.7	-	-
Health service.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cleaning and building service.....	12.84	8.0	12.74	10.0	-	-
Janitors and cleaners.....	13.19	8.6	13.16	11.1	-	-
Personal service.....	9.05	5.4	9.05	5.4	-	-

1 Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

2 All workers include full-time and part-time workers.

3 A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B in bulletin for more information.

4 The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a confidence interval around a sample estimate. For more information about RSEs, see appendix A in bulletin.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

Table 2. Selected worker characteristics: Mean hourly earnings(1) by occupational group,(2) National Compensation Survey, Richland-Kennewick-Pasco, WA, August 2000

Occupational group	Private industry and State and local government					
	Full-time workers ³	Part-time workers ³	Union ⁴	Nonunion ⁴	Time ⁵	Incentive ⁵
All occupations.....	\$21.21	\$9.28	\$21.47	\$19.35	\$20.40	-
All excluding sales.....	21.73	9.75	21.55	20.35	21.01	-
White collar.....	23.48	10.60	23.24	22.14	22.72	\$14.02
White-collar excluding sales.....	24.52	12.18	23.46	23.98	23.90	-
Professional specialty and technical.....	28.57	24.05	26.70	30.06	28.50	-
Professional specialty.....	30.47	25.56	28.18	31.98	30.39	-
Technical.....	22.69	-	23.54	21.26	22.64	-
Executive, administrative, and managerial.....	28.37	-	-	28.78	28.36	-
Sales.....	11.46	7.30	-	10.07	8.93	-
Administrative support, including clerical.....	13.07	10.24	14.22	11.95	12.69	-
Blue collar.....	18.14	7.17	19.99	13.38	17.68	-
Precision production, craft, and repair.....	23.06	-	23.33	21.97	23.06	-
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors.....	13.52	-	-	12.87	13.40	-
Transportation and material moving.....	16.83	-	19.03	11.68	16.38	-
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers.....	10.99	-	12.11	9.07	10.52	-
Service.....	14.90	7.43	19.29	9.08	13.73	-

1 Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

2 A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B in bulletin for more information.

3 Employees are classified as working either a full-time or a part-time schedule based on the definition used by each establishment. Therefore, a worker with a 35-hour-per-week schedule might be considered a full-time employee in one establishment, but classified as part-time in another firm, where a 40-hour week is the minimum full-time schedule.

4 Union workers are those whose wages are determined through collective bargaining.

5 Time workers' wages are based solely on an hourly rate or salary; incentive workers are those whose wages are at least partially based on productivity payments such as piece rates, commissions, and production bonuses.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria.

Table 3. Establishment employment size: Mean hourly earnings(1) by occupational group,(2) private industry, National Compensation Survey, Richland-Kennewick-Pasco, WA, August 2000

Occupational group	Full-time and part-time workers				
	All private industry workers	50 - 99 workers ³	100 workers or more		
			Total	100 - 499 workers	500 workers or more
	Mean				
All occupations.....	\$19.25	\$14.03	\$20.02	\$15.06	\$24.39
All excluding sales.....	20.04	15.49	20.59	15.65	24.39
White collar.....	21.69	14.52	22.80	17.85	25.67
White-collar excluding sales.....	23.40	17.47	24.05	20.27	25.67
Professional specialty and technical.....	28.23	24.57	28.55	26.46	29.13
Professional specialty.....	30.72	-	31.20	30.65	31.29
Technical.....	22.48	-	22.37	-	-
Executive, administrative, and managerial.....	28.41	-	28.55	29.71	-
Sales.....	10.31	9.07	11.01	11.01	-
Administrative support, including clerical.....	12.17	12.18	12.17	11.50	12.83
Blue collar.....	17.19	16.58	17.27	13.91	-
Precision production, craft, and repair.....	23.50	-	23.82	20.41	-
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors.....	13.40	-	12.27	12.27	-
Transportation and material moving.....	16.70	-	16.78	15.43	-
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers.....	9.77	-	9.47	9.47	-
Service.....	10.77	-	11.29	8.08	15.01

1 Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

2 A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B in bulletin for more information.

3 Establishments classified with 50-99 workers may contain establishments with fewer than 50 due to staff reductions between survey sampling and collection.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria.